

BOOT CAMPS VS TRADITIONAL JUVENILE FACILITIES

The United States' first boot camp was established in 1983 for adult offenders in Georgia. The first juvenile boot camp opened in Louisiana in 1985. In 1996, ten states - Alabama, California, Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, New York, and Ohio- were implementing juvenile boot camp programs. Today over 50 camps in 30 states house about 4,500 juvenile offenders.



many studies done over the past couple of years, boot camps still have the same relatively high rate of recidivism, or relapse into criminal behavior, as do the traditional facilities.

The Koch Crime Institute in Kansas City placed recidivism between 64 and 75 percent at boot camps and between 63 and 71 percent for traditional youth correctional facilities.

A study done by the National Institute of Justice, found some varying conclusions between boot camps and traditional facilities. They found juveniles in boot camps felt they were better prepared for release, were given more therapeutic programming, had more structure and control, and were more active than facilities for youths.

Boot camps feature physical conditioning, discipline, activities to boost self-esteem, confidence, and leadership, and an emphasis on military rules.

Many programs also include physical labor, drug and psychological treatment, and education initiatives. Most participants have been convicted of nonviolent crimes and are sentenced to time anywhere from 90 to 180 days.

The question is whether boot camps are more

Camp Summit in LaPorte Indiana

Type of program: Residential
Program duration: 120 days
Aftercare: yes
Program Established: 1995
Source of Funding: State/Indiana Dept. of Correction
Selection criteria: Adjudicated male delinquents sentenced to the Indiana Dept. of Correction between the ages of 13 to 17 years of age. Offenders must reside in the geographical region. No re-commits to Camp Summit.
Cost per day per youth: \$100.00

Source: Koch Crime Institute

effective in rehabilitating an offender compared to the traditional facilities. According to

the focus on incorporating components for effective therapy. This leaves no surprise that they have not been able to dramatically reduce the recidivism.

For more information on topics included in this issue of The Bottom Line, please contact Jennifer Thompson in the Senate Majority Communications Department at (317)232-9499

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Prison Population Boom

In the last decade, the number of people behind bars jumped 60 percent to 34,676 prisoners statewide, according to the 2000 census figures. In many counties, jail populations have doubled and even tripled since 1990. In Allen County, the jail population doubled from 356 to 712 prisoners.

According to national and local experts, the escalation of prison population can be linked to the concentrated efforts on law enforcement, longer sentences and more stringent laws for drug offenders.

lyst with the Justice Policy Institute, we are now seeing the results of the war on drugs which started in the early 1990s. The emphasis on stopping drug dealers and abusers has led to mandatory jail time, bypassing a judge's discretion in sentencing. In Indiana the law requires drug offenders to serve a minimum amount of time behind bars that cannot be suspended by a judge.

FAST FACTS ON INDIANA PRISONS

The Indiana inmate population increased more than 300 percent from 4,633 in 1977 to 19,631 in 1999.

The DOC budget increased from \$219 million in 1990 to \$533 million in 2000, an average total of 5 percent of the state budget every year since 1992.

The average increase in DOC's budget since 1990 has been 9.3 percent per year, outpacing almost all other state agencies.

Source: Indianapolis Star

The growing prison population leaves Indiana with the question of how to alleviate this growing population and still be dedicated to making criminals pay for their crimes.

On July 1, 2000, 83 percent of Indiana's adult inmates convicted of a class A felony, the most severe, were serving time for a drug offense. Of those convicted of a class B felony, 98 percent were serving for drugs.



According to Deborah Vargas, a policy ana-

One way is to build more prisons to handle the growing demand. Indiana has built new facilities over the past few years but is having a hard time finding the money to operate them, which is an even bigger problem with the now shrinking budget.

The average cost per year for an inmate is \$17,728. The current budget allocates \$1.2 billion for



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operation of the State’s correc-
tional system and \$57 million
for maintenance and construc-



tion expenditures. Despite
Indiana large budget, Indiana
can still only fund 600 beds at a
new 1,600-bed facility in Miami
County.

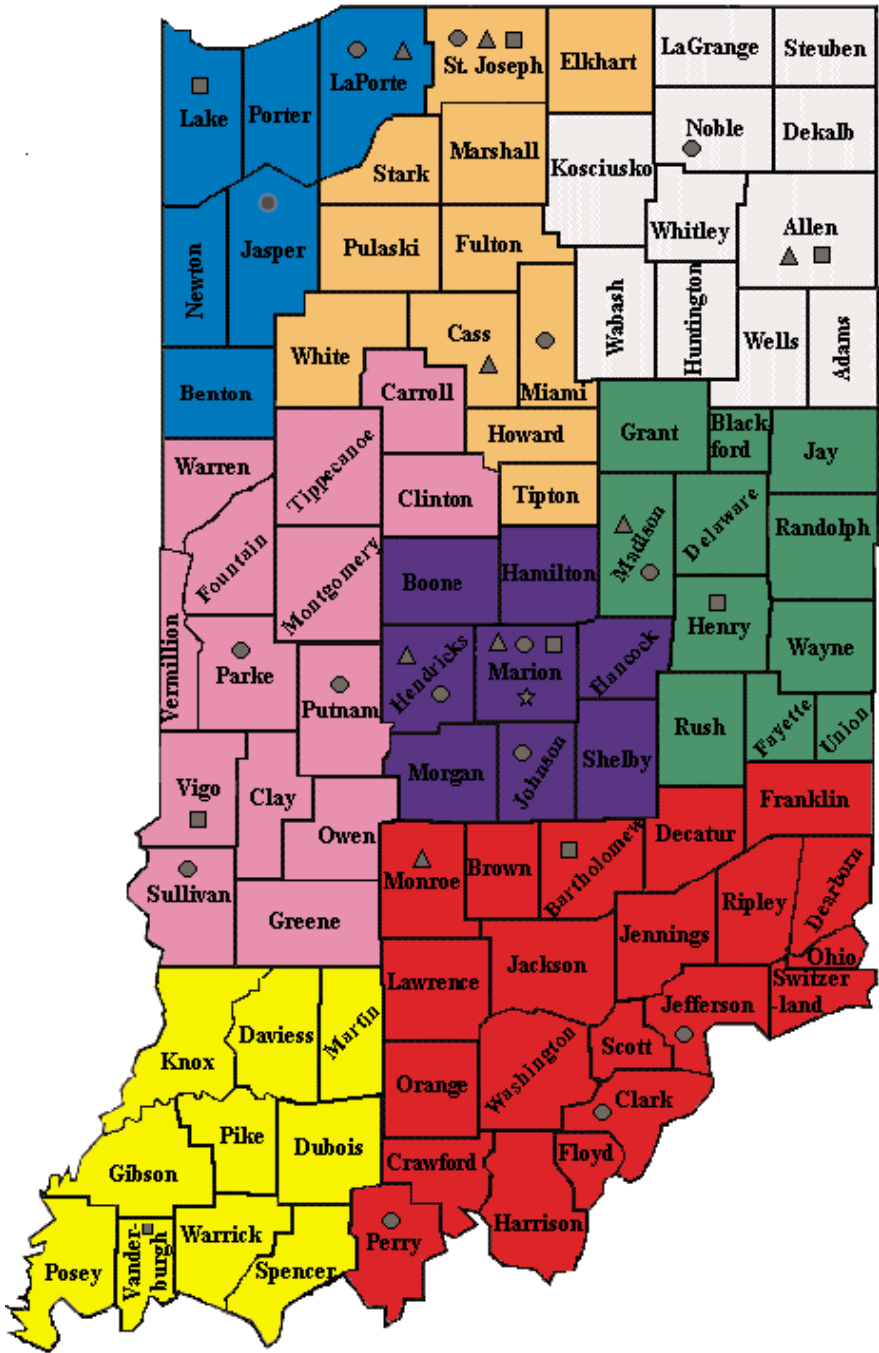


Another solution is to
look into more alternative sen-
tencing. Some examples include
work release, at-home sentenc-
ing, intensive probation, day
reporting and many other pro-
grams. Around 70 counties
throughout Indiana have com-
munity corrections programs but
more are needed to help reduce
the prison population.

The last solution would
be to reexamine the Indiana law
that takes away the judges right
to use discretion and use alter-
native sentences for drug
offenders.



CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IN INDIANA



Legend:

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| ● Adult Facilities | Parole Districts |
| ▲ Juvenile Facilities | #2 |
| ■ Parole Offices | #3 |
| ★ Central Office | #4A |
| | #4B |
| | #5 |
| | #6 |
| | #7 |
| | #8 |

IS ZACHARY’S LAW IN COMPLIANCE?

Indiana is among 14 states in danger of losing
10 percent of its annual federal grant from the U.S.
Bureau of Justice Assistance for failing to be in compli-
ance with the federal sex offender’s law, Megan’s law.

Megan’s law is one of the 17
requirements for Indiana to receive a grant
to pay for crime prevention and victim’s
assistance programs.

Megan’s law, which is named after
7-year-old Megan Kanka who was beat-
en, raped and murdered by a convicted
sex offender who lived near her in New
Jersey, requires sex offenders to register
their names and addresses with local
authorities for life with no exceptions.

Zachary’s law, named for Zachary Snider, who
was 10 years old when he was killed by a sex offender
in Cloverdale, requires Indiana sex and violent offend-
ers to register for ten years.

According to the Indiana code, “a sex and vio-
lent offender’s duty to register expires ten years after
the date the sex and violent offender:

- becomes 21 years of age;
- is released from a penal facility;

- is placed in a community transition program;
- is placed in a community correction program;
- is placed on parole; or
- is placed on probation.”

Zachary’s law does require some offend-
ers to register for life:

- an offender who is at least 18 and the vic-
tim was less then 12 at the time of the
crime;
- an offender was at least 18 and committed
crime against a victim who was less than 18
and in which the sex and violent offender
caused serious bodily injury or death and
used force or threat of force against the vic-
tim or victim’s family; or
- an offender who is convicted of at least
two unrelated offenses that were committed
when the victim was less then 18.

Members of the Indiana Criminal Justice
Institute believe the state is in compliance and is not
worried of losing any grant money.

There are some discrepancies between Megan’s
law and Zachary’s law that need to be worked out to
guarantee Indiana is in compliance and does not lose
any part of our grant money.



Indiana Sex Offender Registry

The Sex Offender Registry, formed by Zachary’s law, has 12,256 names and 5,949 names
have been added to the registry in the past 7 years. It is available on the at www.in.gov/cji. The
registry is also available in paper copies that are distributed twice a year to:

- All school corporations ;
- All non public schools;
- Indiana Family and Social Services Administration;
- Indiana State Personnel Department; and
- All child care facilities licensed by or registered in Indiana.

There has been some discussion in the interim study committee on
Civil and Family Law Issues on updating the registry to include the offend-
ers’ picture, address, county of residence, the city of residence and a map of
the offender’s residence. Currently, Indiana only requires the city and county
of the offenders.

